Programmes implemented/undertaken by UNDP in Tsunami hit regions

2415. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Home Ministry is the nodal agency for the UNDP programmes in the country;

(b) the details of programmes being implemented/undertaken by UNDP in the Tsunami hit regions of the country; and

(c) the role of Home Ministry in assigning/choosing regions for development/rescue work to UNDP?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) The nodal agency for the UNDP programmes in the country is the Department of Economic Affairs in the Ministry of Finance.

(b) The United Nations assistance as coordinated by UNDP is expected to be about $ 38.8 million for areas such as psycho-social support, health and nutrition, education, rebuilding livelihoods, water supply, sanitation and hygiene, information technology and communications.

(c) The assistance from UNDP and its distribution to different regions is coordinated by the Department of Economic Affairs.

Foreign nationals with forged passports, arrested at Thiruvananthapuram Airport

2416. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Kerala sought the intervention of Central Government to investigate into the suspicious links of foreign nationals having forged passports, who were arrested at Thiruvananthapuram Airport;

(b) whether Government are conducting any enquiry into the matter and whether any terrorist links connecting to the incident have been unveiled;

(c) how many foreigners were detained and whether any foreigner was elusive and if so, whether the whereabouts have been detected; and

(d) whether any lapse is viewed on the part of the immigration officials of the Airport, if so, the findings of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Two foreign nationals arrived at Thiruvananthapuram International Airport by Qatar Airways QR 240 as deportee from Doha on 21.07.2005. They were arrested and cirminal cases were registered against them for forging travel documents. State Police is investigating into the two cases including their links with terrorist organizations.

An Assistant Police Sub-Inspector, who was in charge of the immigration counter, was placed under suspension pending an oral enquiry for failing to detect the forgery of travel documents by the above foreigners when they left India from Thiruvananthapuram International Airport on 20.07.2005 by QR 421.

Slum clusters in NDMC areas

2417. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of slum clusters in NDMC areas and the number of them on NDMC land;

(b) the basic amenities provided to these slum clusters and the amount spent by NDMC during the last three years; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to remove these clusters and if so, whether Government would ensure that the slum dwellers would not be disturbed from their places without providing them alternative residential accommodation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) Presently there are 39 Juggi-Jhopri clusters in New Delhi Municipal Council area out of which 6 are on New Delhi Municipal Council land.

(b) Basic amenities provided to these slum clusters are paved footpath, drinking water hydrants and Jan Suvidha complexes. A total of Rupees 33 lakh has been spent by New Delhi Municipal Council for providing amenities in slum clusters during the last three years.